

REFERENCES AND REVIEWS

A LIGATURE INTRODUCER—N. F. Anderson. *Lancet*—Vol. 1:318 (Feb. 11) 1961

This ligature introducer is a thin tube with a spool-carrying drum mounted across one end and a curved, hollow needle on the other. Thread is led out from spool through tube and needle. The instrument has these advantages: (a) The thread is presented at the tip. (b) It is completely enclosed. (c) It passes through a small opening and can make its own tunnel. The length is 15 cm.

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PNEUMONIA CAUSED BY NOCARDIA ASTEROIDES: A CASE REPORT—C. F. Gutch. *Nebraska Med.*—Vol. 46:47 (Feb.) 1961

A 64-year-old man is reported who had confluent left upper lobe pneumonitis. Two weeks prior to admission he had had an upper respiratory infection and sore throat. *Nocardia asteroides* was repeatedly identified from sputum culture. There was an excellent response to sulfadiazone treatment as seen both clinically and roentgenologically. The treatment was arbitrarily continued for one year.

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INHERITED "ACQUIRED" HYPOGAMMAGLOBULINEMIA—F. Wollheim. *Lancet*—Vol. 1:316 (Feb. 11) 1961

Two male and five female patients with adult primary hypogammaglobulinemia were studied. They came from three different small geographic areas. One derived from a first-cousin marriage and two proved direct relationship. This disease being very rare, the evidence points strongly

to autosomal recessive inheritance in at least some cases of "acquired" hypogammaglobulinemia.

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HUMAN SERUM INSULIN-LIKE ACTIVITY AS DETERMINED BY A RAT ADIPOSE TISSUE BIO-ASSAY METHOD—P. M. Beigelman. *Diabetes*—Vol. 10:130 (March-April) 1961

Normal human sera were assayed by the method utilizing glucose uptake by adipose tissue. Maximum insulin-like activity appeared to occur 1 to 2 hours postprandial. Considerable individual variation was a notable feature. Decrease of insulin-like activity was demonstrated as a consequence of diluting pooled whole serum.

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INSULIN RESISTANCE WITH HIGH LEVELS OF CIRCULATING INSULIN-LIKE ACTIVITY DEMONSTRABLE IN VITRO AND IN VIVO—J. C. Shipp, R. O. Russell, J. Steinke, M. L. Mitchell, and W. B. Hadley. *Diabetes*—Vol. 10:1 (Jan. Feb.) 1961

An instance of insulin resistance of five months' duration is described, in which the resistance per se was a major factor in producing diabetic coma. This was successfully treated with large amounts (9,000 units) of insulin. The resistant state returned (1,200 units daily). Prednisone was associated with a return of insulin sensitivity. Serum from the patient during the resistant period showed precipitin antibodies, increased insulin binding, and high levels of insulin-like activity by the in vitro adipose tissue assay. Plasma, 101 ml., infused into a nondiabetic patient produced profound hypoglycemia. The time-course of the induced hypoglycemia suggests a slow release of "bound insulin" in the patient's plasma. These observations suggest that the basis for insulin resistance in this instance was an inability in the insulin to reach the cell in a biologically active form at the necessary rate or else a failure of the cell to respond.

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CONTROL OF CARDIAC ACTIVITY BY ISCHEMIA AND HYPOTHERMIA—J. M. McKain and others. *Arch. Surg.*—Vol. 82:511 (April) 1961.


This controlled study was set up to observe and compare the various methods for obtaining control of cardiac activity during surgery. Various cardioplegic agents and ischemia were studied under normothermic and hypothermic conditions. Thirty-six mongrel dogs were divided into two roughly equal groups. One of these groups was made mildly hypothermic—30° C. (86° F.)—by external cooling and the other was operated on at normothermia. The effect of potassium chloride, potassium citrate, and acetylcholine perfused into the coronary system was compared with ischemic arrest in each of these two groups. It was found that the return to normal and effective cardiac activity was most common in the ischemic group. This was true at both normothermic and hypothermic conditions. It was also found that the animals tolerated profound ischemia quite well.

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MEPROBAMATE AND CHLORPROMAZINE IN PSYCHOTHERAPY—M. Lorr and others. *Arch. Gen. Psychiat.*—Vol. 4:381 (April) 1961

Twenty-three Veterans Administration Mental Hygiene Clinics collaborated in a 12-week double-blind study of the effects of two tranquilizers. The sample consisted of 180 newly accepted male psychiatric outpatients. The major hypothesis was that individual psychotherapy with a tranquilizer added would be more effective in reducing anxiety and hostility than psychotherapy alone or psychotherapy with either of two control substances (phenobarbital and placebo). The findings from the viewpoint of the patient, as reflected in 12 measures, were that neither tranquilizer

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